

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RAILWAYS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2160
ANSWERED ON:03.08.2015
Privatisation of Railways
Charitra Shri Ram;Choubey Shri Ashwini Kumar

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the railway employees union had given a threat to go on strike against the privatisation of railways;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the sector at present opened by Railways for privatisation and private participation;
- (c) whether the Railways have ruled out privatisation; and
- (d) if so, whether Railways have chalked out any plan for mobilisation of private fund in Railways and if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS

(SHRI MANOJ SINHA)

(a) Yes, Madam.

(b) & (c) General Secretary, National Federation of Indian Railwaymen, one of the recognized Federations of Railway employees and Secretary, National Council (Staff Side), Joint Consultative Machinery for Central Government Employees who is also General Secretary, All India Railwaymen's Federation, another recognized Federation of Railway employees, have threatened to go on indefinite strike from 23rd November, 2015 in support of their Charter of Demands including demand against the privatization of Railways.

There is no plan to privatise Railways. However, private participation for building/ strengthening rail infrastructure is permissible. As per the sectoral guidelines for Domestic/ Foreign Direct Investment issued in November, 2014, private participation is permissible in suburban corridor projects through Public Private Participation, high speed train projects, dedicated freight lines, rolling stock manufacturing and maintenance facilities, railway electrification, signaling system, freight terminals/ logistics parks, passenger terminals, railway technical training institutes, testing facilities, concessioning of standalone passenger corridors, non- conventional sources of energy, mechanized laundry, bio toilets, technological solutions for level crossings and to improve safety.

(d) Apart from private participation for building/ strengthening rail infrastructure, no plan has been chalked out for mobilisation of private funds for Railways. For development of Railway projects, Memorandum of Understanding has been signed with Life Insurance Corporation of India for 1.5 lakh crore to be made available over a period of five years.
